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1995

Annual Reports

for the Town of

SHARON

NEW HAMPSHIRE

1993

Annual Reports

of the Town of

SHARON

New Hampshire

For the Year Ending
December 31,1993

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TOWN OFFICERS

MODERATOR

Hampton Howard	Term expires 1994

SELECTMEN

Ken Callahan	Term expires 1994
John W. Derby	Term expires 1995
Barry Rhodes	Term expires 1996

TOWN CLERK

Nancy Kormendi	Term expires 1994

TREASURER

Eleanor Butler	Term expires 1994

COLLECTOR OF TAXES

Leslie Jones	Term expires 1994

HIGHWAY AGENT

Walter B. Somero	Appointed

TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS

Chester Bowles	Term expires 1994

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

Barbara Wilson	Term expires 1994
Heather Robinson	Term expires 1996
Diane Callahan	Term expires 1998

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

	Term expires 1994
Diane Krakow	Term expires 1995
Diane Callahan	Term expires 1996
Richard Dufresne	Term expires 1997
Chester Bowles	Term expires 1998
Harry Dermody	Alternate
Gary Peyton	Alternate

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Karen Debonis	Term expires 1994
Peter Paris	Term expires 1995
Gina Goff	Term expires 1996
Bruce Matthews	Term expires 1997
Carl Adams	Alternate
J. Milton Street	Emeritus

PLANNING BOARD

Lois Estabrook	Term expires 1994
John Butler	Term expires 1995
David Brown	Term expires 1996
Donald Sullivan	Term expires 1997
Ken Callahan	Ex officio

TOWN FOREST ADVISORY COMMISSION

Barry Rhodes	Selectman
John Butler	Planning Board
Karen DeBonis	Conservation Commission
A. Lester Stevens	Term expires 1994
James Martens	Term expires 1996

HEALTH OFFICER

Gerald DeBonis MD	Appointed

BUILDING INSPECTOR

Timothy Groesbeck	Appointed

SCHOOL BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

Hampton Howard	Term expires 1994

FOREST FIRE WARDEN

Barton D. Goodeve	Appointed

DEPUTY WARDEN

John W. Derby	Appointed

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

Barry Rhodes	Appointed

TOWN OF SHARON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

TOWN WARRANT

To the inhabitants of the Town of Sharon, New Hampshire, in the county of Hillsborough, qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet in the Brick Schoolhouse in said Town on Tuesday, March 8, 1994 at eleven o'clock in the forenoon to ballot for Town Officers and other questions required by law to be decided by ballot. The polls will be closed at 7:00 PM. The business meeting will start at 7:30 PM on the same date.

Article 1. To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to set the following amounts which shall be paid to the Town Officers for their services, or take any action relative thereto:

COMPENSATION SCHEDULE

Selectmen	$1,000 per year
	plus$1,000 expenses
Town Clerk	$1,000 per year
Collector of Taxes	$1,500 per year
Treasurer	$1,000 per year
Trustee of Trust Funds	$50.00 per year
Moderator	$40.00 per sess.
Supervisors of Checklist	$5.00 per hour
Fire Warden	$100 per year
Building Inspector	$75.00 per permit used

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the purposes specified, or take any action relative thereto:

ACCOUNT	DEPARTMENT	AMOUNT
4130	Executive	$ 4,000
4140	Election & Reg.	1,500
4150	Financial Admin.	10,000
4153	Legal Expense	500
4191	Planning & Zoning	5,000
4194	Gen. Govt. Bldg.	400
4195	Cemetaries	200
4196	Insurance	3,200
4215	Ambulance	2,105
4220	Fire Protection	9,422
4312	Highways	35,000
4316	Street Lighting	250
4324	Solid Waste Disposal	24,950
4414	Animal Control	150
4442	Welfare	500
4619	Conservation Comm.	800
4723	Interest-Tax Antic.	300

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen, as Managers of the Town Forest, to purchase 11 acres, known as Map 6 Lot 7 from Mr. & Mrs. Richard Blair for a price not to exceed $33,000, proceeds to be drawn from the Town Forest Fund, or take any action relative thereto,

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $1,650 as the Town's share of the operating expenses of the Peterborough Library, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $518 for the Home Health Care and Community Services, Account 4415, or take any action relative thereto,

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $311 for the Monadnock Family Services, Account 4415, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $3,000 for the purpose of setting part of the Sharon-Temple boundary, and to further authorize the Selectmen to withdraw from the Perry Fund as much as is available to cover the cost of the above work but not to exceed $3,000, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the appointment of a committee of at least 3 persons to see to the improvement of the North Cemetary.

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Conservation Commission to retain the unexpended balance of its annual appropriation, said funds to placed in a conservation fund as authorized by RSA 36-A:5.

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to deposit 100%(up to $5,000 per year) of the revenues collected pursuant to RSA 79-A(the land use change tax) in the conservation fund in accordance with RSA 36-A:5 III as authorized by RSA 79:A:25 II.

Article 12. To see if the Town will approve the purchase of property using the conservation fund after holding a public hearing and subsequent approval by the Selectmen.

Article 13. To see if the Town shall accept the provisions of RSA 80:80IV, providing that any Town at an annual meeting may adopt an article authorizing indefinitely, until specific recission of such authority, the Selectmen to transfer tax liens, or to sell real estate acquired in default of redemption by public auction or advertised sealed bid, or in such other manner as justice may require.

Article 14. To see if the Town shall accept the provisions of RSA 31:95-b providing that any town at an annual meeting may adopt an article authorizing indefinitely, until specific recission of such authority, the Selectmen to apply for, accept and expend, without further action by a town meeting, unanticipated money from a state, federal, or other governmental unit or a private source which becomes available during the year?

Article 15. To see if the Town shall vote to accept the provisions of RSA 33:7 providing that any town at an annual meeting may adopt an article authorizing indefinitely, until specific recission of such authority, the Selectmen to issue tax anticipation notes?

Article 16. To see if the Town shall vote to rename, for Town purposes, Route 123 as it is located in Town to Street Road?

Article 17. To see if the Town will vote to reclassify as Class A Municipal Trails pursuant to RSA 231-A:2 and 231-A:4 the following highways:

1. The entire length of South Road
2. Swamp Road north from the Kohak residence
3. That portion of Mountain Road extending northeasterly from a point just beyond the driveway to the Lovett Morse residence to the Peterborough town line, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 18. To see if the Town will vote to confirm its action under Article 5 of the warrant for the 1992 annual meeting to raise and appropriate the sum of $16,000 as its share of the cost of development of a Remedial Action Closure Plan for remediation of hazardous waste with respect to the old burning dump and landfill at Route 202 North in Peterborough, and to authorize the Selectmen to negotiate and execute an agreement releasing the Town from further liability therefor to the extent deemed by them to be in the best interest of the Town, or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to instruct the Selectmen to write to President Bill Clinton to request that he keep his campaign promise to the town regarding the holocaust in Bosnia and to attack the Serbian gun emplacements with U.S. air power, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $250 for the future revaluation of the Town and to place said sum in Account #4915, a Capital Reserve Account for said purpose, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $1,500 to cover the cost of 2 radios to be used in conjunction with the Emergency Management Plan, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 22. To transact any other business which legally shall come before this meeting.

Given under our hand and seals at said Sharon this 15th day of February, 1994.

Selectmen:

Ken Callahan

John W. Derby

Barry Rhodes

BUDGET OF THE TOWN

OF Sharon **N.H.**

Appropriations and Estimates of Revenue for the Ensuing Year January 1, 19 94 to December 31, 19 94 or for Fiscal Year

From _____ 19 ____ to _____ 19 ____

IMPORTANT: Please read the new RSA 32:5 applicable to all municipalities.

It requires this budget be prepared on a "gross" basis, showing all revenues and appropriations. At least one public hearing must be held on this budget.

When completed, a copy of the budget must be posted with the warrant. Another copy must be placed on file with the town clerk, and a copy sent to the Department of Revenue Administration at the address above.

Date 2-15-94

SELECTMEN (PLEASE SIGN IN INK)

THIS BUDGET SHALL BE POSTED WITH THE TOWN WARRANT

(Rev. 1993)

Acct. No.	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATION (RSA 31:4) GENERAL GOVERNMENT	W.A. No.	Appropriations Prior Year As Approved By DRA	Actual Expenditures Prior Year	APPROPRIATIONS ENSUING FISCAL YEAR (Recommended)
4130	Executive	3	4,000	4,000	4,000
4140	Election, Registration, & Vital Statistics	3	2,000	1,538	1,500
4150	Financial Administration	3	9,400	10,963	10,000
4152	Revaluation of Property		11,600	13,820	
4153	Legal Expense	3	500	595	500
4155	Personnel Administration				
4191	Planning and Zoning	3	5,000	3,573	5,000
4194	General Government Building	3	400	386	400
4195	Cemeteries	3	200	81	200
4196	Insurance	3	3,600	4,716	3,200
4197	Advertising and Regional Associations				
4199	Other General Government				
	PUBLIC SAFETY				
4210	Police				
4215	Ambulance	3	3,750	3,514	2,105
4220	Fire	3	9,650	9,650	9,422
4240	Bldg. Inspection				
4290	Emergency Mgt.				
4299	Other Public Safety (including Communications)	21			1,500
	HIGHWAYS AND STREETS				
4312	Highways and Streets	3	35,000	27,307	35,000
4313	Bridges				
4316	Street Lighting	3	250	203	250
	SANITATION				
4323	Solid Waste Collection				
4324	Solid Waste Disposal	3	21,095	21,095	24,950
4326	Sewage Collection and Disposal				
	WATER DISTRIBUTION AND TREATMENT				
4332	Water Services				
4335	Water Treatment				
	HEALTH				
4414	Pest Control	3	150	0	150
4415	Health Agencies and Hospitals	6, 7	823	823	829
	WELFARE				
4442	Direct Assistance	3	500	500	500
4444	Intergovernmental Welfare Payments				
4445	Vendor Payments				
	Sub-Totals (carry to top of page 3)				99,506

Acct. No.	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATION (RSA 31:4)	W.A. No.	Appropriations Prior Year As Approved By DRA	Actual Expenditures Prior Year	APPROPRIATIONS ENSUING FISCAL YEAR (Recommended)
	Sub-Totals (from page 2)				
	CULTURE AND RECREATION				
4520	Parks and Recreation				
4550	Library	5	1,500	1,500	1,650
4583	Patriotic Purposes				
4589	Other Culture and Recreation				
	CONSERVATION				
4612	Purchase of Natural Resources				
4619	Other Conservation	3	800	370	800
	Town Line Survey	8			3,000
	REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING				
	Town Forest Land Purchase	4			33,000
	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT				
	DEBT SERVICE				
4711	Princ.-Long Term Bonds & Notes				
4721	Interest-Long Term Bonds & Notes				
4723	Interest on TAN	3	300	72	300
	CAPITAL OUTLAY				
4901	Land and Improvements				
4902	Mach., Veh., & Equip.				
4903	Buildings				
4909	Improvements Other Than Buildings				
	Forest Trail Development		3,500	332	
	OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT				
4912	To Special Revenue Fund				
4913	To Capital Projects Fund				
4914	To Enterprise Fund				
	Sewer —				
	Water —				
	Electric —				
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	21			250
4916	To Trust and Agency Funds				
	TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS		114,018	105,038	138,506

HELP! We ask your assistance in the following: If you have a line item of appropriation which is made up of appropriations from more than one (1) warrant article, please use the space below to identify the make-up of the line total. We hope this will expedite the tax rate process by reducing the number of inquiries from this office.

Acct.	W.A.	Amt.	Acct.	W.A.	Amt.

** Amounts Not Recommended by Selectmen **

These amounts are not included in the recommended column.

Warrant Article #	$ Amount	Warrant Article #	$ Amount

Acct. No.	SOURCE OF REVENUE TAXES	W.A. No.	*ESTIMATED REVENUE Prior Year (omit cents)	ACTUAL REVENUE Prior Year (omit cents)	ESTIMATED REVENUE Ensuing Fiscal Year (omit cents)
3120	Land Use Change Taxes		2,000	6,560	
3180	Resident Taxes				
3185	Yield Taxes		4,000	7,579	4,000
3186	Payment in Lieu of Taxes				
3189	Other Taxes				
3190	Interest & Penalties on Delinquent Taxes		8,000	7,032	8,000
	Inventory Penalties				
	LICENSES, PERMITS AND FEES				
3210	Business Licenses and Permits		600	422	500
3220	Motor Vehicle Permit Fees		25,000	28,349	25,000
3230	Building Permits				
3290	Other Licenses, Permits & Fees			618	500
	FROM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT				
3319	Other FEMA			716	
	FROM STATE				
3351	Shared Revenue		2,716	2,716	2,500
3353	Highway Block Grant		12,579	12,579	12,507
3354	Water Pollution Grants				
3355	Housing and Community Development				
3356	State & Federal Forest Land Reimbursement		163	163	150
3357	Flood Control Reimbursement				
3359	Other (Including Railroad Tax)				
	FROM OTHER GOVERNMENT				
3379	Intergovernmental Revenues				
	CHARGES FOR SERVICES				
3401	Income from Departments				
3409	Other Charges				
	MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES				
3501	Sale of Municipal Property				
3502	Interest on Investments		1,000	1,451	1,000
3509	Other		1,000	500	500
	INTERFUND OPERATING TRANSFERS IN				
3912	Special Revenue Fund				
3913	Capital Projects Fund				
3914	Enterprise Fund				
	Sewer —				
	Water —				
	Electric —				
3915	Capital Reserve Fund		7,100	7,100	
3916	Trust and Agency Funds	4,8			36,000
	OTHER FINANCING SOURCES				
3934	Proc. from Long Term Notes & Bonds				
	General Fund Balance	For Municipal Use			
	Unreserved Fund Balance	< $ >	xxx	xxx	xxx
	Fund Balance Voted From Surplus	< $ >	10,000		
	Fund Balance to be Retained	$	xxx	xxx	xxx
	Fund Balance Remaining to Reduce Taxes	$			
	TOTAL REVENUES AND CREDITS		74,158	75,785	~~90,657~~

*Enter in this column the numbers which were revised and approved by DRA and which appear on the MS-4 form.

Total Appropriations 138,506

Less: Amount of Estimated Revenues, Exclusive of Property Taxes 90,657

Amount of Taxes to be Raised (Exclusive of School and County Taxes) 47,849

BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF Sharon, N.H.

Vachon, Clukay & Co., PC

Certified Public Accountants

45 Market Street
Manchester, New Hampshire 03101
(603) 622-7070

February 9, 1994

To the Board of Selectmen
Town of Sharon, New Hampshire

We have audited the general purpose financial statements of the Town of Sharon, New Hampshire as of and for the year ended December 31, 1993, and have issued our report thereon dated February 9, 1994.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the general purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement.

In planning and performing our audit of the general purpose financial statements of the Town of Sharon, New Hampshire for the year ended December 31, 1993, we considered its internal control structure in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the general purpose financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control structure.

The management of the Town of Sharon, New Hampshire is responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure. In fulfilling this responsibility, estimates and judgments by management are required to assess the expected benefits and related costs of internal control structure policies and procedures. The objectives of an internal control structure are to provide management with reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, and that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and recorded properly to permit the preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Because of inherent limitations in any internal control structure, errors or irregularities may nevertheless occur and not be detected. Also, projection of any evaluation of the structure to future periods is subject to the risk that procedures may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the effectiveness of the design and operation of policies and procedures may deteriorate.

For the purpose of this report, we have classified the significant internal control structure policies and procedures in the following categories:

Budget
Cash and investments
Revenue and receivables
Expenditures for goods and services
and accounts payable

For all of the internal control structure categories listed above, we obtained an understanding of the design of relevant policies and procedures and whether they have been placed in operation, and we assessed control risk.

Our consideration of the internal control structure would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control structure that might be material weaknesses under standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control structure elements does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that errors or irregularities in amounts that would be material in relation to the general purpose financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control structure and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses as defined above.

This report is intended for the information of management and the Board of Selectmen. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Vachon, Clukey & Co., PC

REPORT OF THE SELECTMEN

We would like to advise the residents that the rabies epidemic is continuing and will do so for some years. All residents should be cautioned to avoid all wild animals. House pets should be vaccinated as per the recomendations of a veterinarian. Contact the Selectmen if you need a suspicious acting animal removed.

We endorse the idea of reclassifying 3 town roads as municipal trails. There has been much unwanted activity on these roads and we feel that now is the time to make other use of them. Some of the items and activities include disposal of car parts, animal carcasses, oil tanks, building shingles, household trash, contents of cars,tires, unknown chemicals, underage drinking, loud parties, torched cars, stolen cars and so on. Our lack of ability to police these roads along with a newly enacted state law gives us the chance to make a very satisfactory alternate use of these roads. Land owners would still have full access.

The matter of the Sharon-Temple line location has been brought up for some time. We have some landowners have repeatedly asked that we set the line. We have been in touch with Temple who has agreed to have the cost also put on their warrant. If their vote is successful we will split the cost. If not we will bear it ourselves. We already have the marker. The surveyor has all the information he needs so the job should not be too large.

The Emergency Management Plan is nearing completion. We would like to thank Barry Rhodes for his efforts on the plan. You will

find an Emergency Help Survey in this Town Report. Please fill it out and bring it to Town Meeting or mail it to the Selectmen.

We would like to thank the Sharon Arts Center for its generous donation of a meeting place for Town Meeting and also for providing copying services.

The Selectmen, as Managers of the Town Forest, have had the offer of some land to be added to the Town Forest. We feel that the land would give access on the west end of the forest and would be a wise move. We ask for support at Town Meeting. The funding would come from the Forest Fund which consists of income from timber sales and interest.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Kenneth Callahan

John W. Derby

Barry Rhodes

Selectmen of Sharon

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Summary of Tax Accounts

Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 1993

DR.

	Levies of	
Uncollected Taxes - Beginning of Fiscal Year:	**1993**	**1992**
Property Taxes		39,011.76
Revenues Committed to Collector:		
Property Taxes	$400,102.93	
Land Use Change	$6560.00	
Yield Taxes	75,578.61	
Overpayments:		
Property Taxes	944.36	47.10
Lien Costs		497.00
Interest Collected on Delinquent Tax	389.21	1,719.71
Total Debits	$415,575.11	$41,275.57
TOTAL		$456,850.68

CR.

	Levies of	
Remitted to Treasurer During Fiscal Year	**1993**	**1992**
Property Taxes	$362,806.99	39,011.76
Land Use Change	6,560.00	
Yield Taxes	6,314.88	
Interest:	389.21	1,719.71
Penalties:		
Overpayments	944.36	47.10
Lien Costs		497.00
Abatements Made:		
Property Taxes	1809.78	
Yield Taxes	901.14	
Uncollected Revenue End of Year:		
Property Taxes	35,465.25	
Yield Taxes	362.79	
Total Credits	$415,554.20	$41,275.57
TOTAL		$456,829.77

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT
Summary of Tax Accounts
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 1993

DR.

Tax Sale/Lien on Account of Levies of

	1992	1991	1990
Balance of Unredeemed Taxes at Beg. of Fiscal Year:		$11,275.41	$4,654.89
Liens Sold/Executed During Fiscal Year:	$24,239.87		
Interest & Costs Collected After Lien Execution	913.40	2153.87	1,358.22
Overpayments:		1.15	
Total Debits.	**$25,153.27**	**$13,430.43**	**$6,013.11**

CR.

Remittance to Treasurer			
Redemptions	$13,521.03	10,476.35	4,654.89
Interest/Costs (After Sale or Lien Execution)	913.40	2,155.04	1,358.22
Unredeemed Liens Bal. End of Year.	10,718.84	799.04	
Total Credits	**$25,153.27**	**$13,430.43**	**$6,013.11**

REPORT OF THE HIGHWAY AGENT

The great amount of cold weather has caused the roads to stay ice covered for over 3 months. This condition has required considerable sanding.

I have received many compliments on the plowing of the roads and I would like to thank John Keurulainen for doing such a good job.

The following work has been completed.

Two culverts have been replaced on Mountain Road. One was replaced on Swamp Road.

Guard rails have been installed on Spring Mill Road and Spring Hill Road.

Brush has been cut on McCoy Road.

The continuous rain in the fall made it impossible to do shimming and sealing on McCoy Road. The material to do this has been stock-piled and will be used as soon as the weather permits.

The cemetaries will continue to be mowed and have brush cut.

I would like to thank the Selectmen and the townspeople for their support and cooperation.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter B. Somero
Highway Agent

TOWN OF SHARON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Earthquakes, floods and fires were major news stories in 1993. While these events were occurring around the country, the Town of Sharon was quietly working on a plan of action with the New Hampshire Emergency Management Agency. Nancy Wurtz, the state agency's Field Representative worked with Barry Rhodes, who was designated as the Emergency Management Director for Sharon. Pre-disaster planning is an essential part of government's obligation to protect its people from hazards which could threaten them.

The planning process focused on three areas: identifying potential hazards, developing an emergency response organization, and co-ordination with surrounding communities. The process involved the Selectmen, Planning Board, Building Inspector, Road Agent, Forest Fire Warden, and the Peterborough Fire Department. The plan was completed in October and approved by the state agency in November.

The primary hazards for Sharon are weather-related: snow and ice storms, hurricanes and flooding. Fires, accidents and prolonged power-outages are also events that need to be anticipated. Responding to these events involves marshaling the resources available in Sharon and developing the ability to communicate with sources of help in surrounding communities and state agencies. The plan includes an inventory of people in town with specialized training and/or equipment. For example, we have two doctors and four nurses, and three people have heavy equipment (backhoes, trucks, etc.).

One concern that the New Hampshire Emergency Management Agency and the Peterborough Fire Department identified as a problem for Sharon is communications with outside agencies. In the event of a situation where telephone service was disrupted, we would have no direct communications link. Working with both agencies, we have designed a radio system with a combination base station/mobile radio and a portable two-way radio. The funding for this equipment is being proposed by the Selectmen as an Article in the Town Warrant.

Another important aspect of the plan is the "Emergency Help Survey" that will be distributed with the Town Report. The survey identifies specials needs that people may have in an emergency, such as transportation, medical care or supplies, and help with heat, water, food and/or shelter. The survey also asks people to identify the types of emergency help they might be able to provide to those in need.

The Emergency Management Plan has several aspects to it that have yet to be developed. During the coming year, the plan will be revised to include information gathered from the survey. We will hold a desk drill, under the supervision of the State, that will simulate an emergency and evaluate the our response. We will also add a section on hazardous materials that could be released in a trucking accident on our roads.

SHARON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

1993 Accomplishments

Earth Day '93

With help from an enthusiastic group of volunteer citizens, the Conservation Commission's fourth annual Town Clean-Up was successful. Roadside trash was sorted and brought to the recycling center in Peterborough.

Bog

The Commission kept the Forest Society and the landowner (Arthur Whitcomb /Tilcon, Inc.) informed of developments concerning the municipal water supply in the town of Jaffrey. In 1992, an engineering firm conducted test drilling in the land surrounding the bog for an underground source of water that could potentially supplement Jaffrey's water supply.

Milt Street created an 8-acre conservation easement along the Gridley River nearby the bog site.

Town Forest

Members of the Commission served on the Town Forest Committee.

Seminars

Members participated in seminars and workshops regarding conservation issues. The Commission is a member of the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commission, Audubon Society, Friends of the Wapack, and Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests.

Wetlands

The Conservation Commission completed training by The UNH Environmental Network in wetlands inventory methods. The purpose of the inventory is to collect basic information about wetlands (using techniques recommended by the state) which could be useful as future plans and decisions are made regarding wetlands in Sharon. Three wetlands were evaluated in 1993 with The Network; a written report and presentation were offered to the town in April. A fourth wetland was inventoried in October. All major wetlands and watersheds were delineated and consolidated on maps that include soils, aquifer, aerial, natural resources, fish and wildlife, and topographical information.

1994 Plans

Earth Day '94

The 1994 Town Clean-Up is scheduled for Saturday, April 23th (Rain date: 4/30). Meet at the schoolhouse at 9 a.m. Please come, and bring your family! We welcome your help and participation.

Conservation Fund

The Conservation Commission has three warrant articles before townspeople:

I. To Create a Conservation Fund
To see if the town will vote to authorize the conservation commission to retain the unexpended balance of its annual appropriation, said funds to be placed in a conservation fund as authorized by RSA 36-A:5.

II. To Allocate the Use Change Tax to the Conservation Fund
To see if the town will vote to deposit 100% (up to $5,000 per year) of the revenues collected pursuant to RSA 79-A (the land use change tax) in the conservation fund in accordance with RSA 36-A:5 III as authorized by RSA 79:A:25 II.

III. Expenditure of Conservation Fund for Land Acquisition
To see if the town will approve the purchase of property using the conservation fund after holding a public hearing and subsequent approval by the Selectmen.

Many area towns already have Conservation Funds. The purposes of a fund in Sharon include:
* Acquire land, after a public hearing and with approval by the Selectmen, for permanent protection in the town of Sharon if: the land adds to other existing protected land or provides a critical linkage between protected lands; or land contains significant wetlands or other important water resources; or land has habitat for rare, threatened, or endangered animal or plant species; or land contains important cultural, historical or archaeological resources.
* Cover costs associated with acquisition, such as: title searches, surveys, deed registrations, etc.;
* Pay legal costs for donated land;
* Promote, establish and monitor conservation easements;
* Pay miscellaneous fees;

Bog

We will continue our dialog with Tilcon/Arthur Whitcomb, Inc. on efforts to protect the bog, (and a buffer area) for ecological and historical reasons.

Town Forest

The Conservation Commission will continue to work with the Forest Committee.

Wetlands

More wetlands sites in Sharon will be inventoried. Interested volunteers are welcome to help the Conservation Commission collect data "in the field." Our long-term goal is to inventory all major wetlands in town.

Easements

We plan to research the conservation easements in Sharon that already exist and easements are in the process of being created. We will learn more about the purpose of conservation easements and how they work so that we may offer information and assistance to Sharon landowners.

The Conservation Commission meets on the second Tuesday of each month at the schoolhouse. Interested citizens are welcome to attend.

REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD

Two zoning ordinance amendments were offered to and approved by the voters in 1993. The first, presented at the regular March town meeting, created a Special Exception procedure by which homeowners could expand existing structures located within the recently established 100 foot setback from the street. The second, presented at a special town meeting in July in response to legal action by an aggrieved developer, clarified his right to sell for building purposes a 3.5 acre lot created by subdivision prior to the change in minimum lot size to 5 acres.

The proposed 125 acre subdivision on Jarmany Hill road, which had waxed and waned for several years, finally went away through purchase of 18 acres by an abutter and the remainder by a family wishing to subdivide the lot into two parcels for family use.

This latter event brought forward a concept which the planning board had been discussing for some time. The new owners of the large parcel, under present zoning regulations, would have to create a paved road to town specifications as a common driveway to the two proposed lots since the large parcel does not have enough frontage for two building lots. The owners are free to choose this course and are also free to pursue further subdivision if so inclined. The planning board's view is that the visual impact on the town will be moderated by permitting access to the two lots by a private way constructed to the minimal town driveway specifications. The major concern, of course, is to anticipate and prevent abuses of this concept.

To that end a pair of zoning ordinance amendments is being presented to the voters at this year's town meeting. The amendments are summarized on the ballot as follows:

<u>Amendment 1 Summary</u>

The purpose of this amendment is to allow landowners, under certain limited conditions, to access back land for building purposes. Back land is land which does not have the presently-required 300 feet of frontage on a town road. Such access would be over a

"private way" which could be constructed to driveway standards rather than town road standards. Buildable back lots would be limited to two per private way and would have a minimum size of 10 acres each. Buildings on such lots would have to be set back at least 300 feet from the town road as well as 100 feet from the private way and no two private ways could be nearer than 500 feet from one another. Permitted uses on back lots would be limited to those specified in Article VII-B, sections 1, 2 and 9. Future subdivision utilizing a private way would require upgrading the private way to town road standards and would not be allowed to create nonconforming uses on the back lots.

Definitions of Back Lot, Buildable Lot, Buildable Back Lot, Driveway and Private way are added to Article XVII, Definitions, in support of this proposed amendment.

Amendment 2 Summary

The purpose of this amendment is to simplify and clarify the existing regulations regarding the procedure for issuance of permits for the construction of driveways.

Many New Hampshire towns have similar ordinance provisions and inquiries by the planning board have found general satisfaction with the concept. The landowner wishing to create a building lot for a family member can do so with minimum trouble and expense. Visual impact of such subdivisions on the town are reduced. Finally, legitimate rights of landowners to develop property in the conventional manner are not affected.

Full text of the proposed amendments is available from the town clerk and members of the planning board will be pleased to answer any questions on the proposal.

Respectfully submitted,
Donald L. Sullivan
Chairman